

IN THE CLAIMS:

We claim:

1. A medical measuring apparatus for measuring a lumen of a intracorporeal passage, as the intracorporeal passage appears in an image, comprising:

a measuring adjunct including at least one geometric figure outline having a border formed by a portion of said measuring adjunct such that an aperture having a geometric shape is defined for measuring the lumen of the intracorporeal passage, said at least one geometric figure outline having a corresponding measurement specification; and

an object to image retainer for the measuring adjunct, said object to image retainer having calibrated height adjustment means for adjusting height of the measuring adjunct such that the measuring adjunct lies between the adjustment means, said object to image retainer for compensating for a magnification ratio relating to the intracorporeal passage and the intracorporeal passage as it appears in the image.

2. The medical measuring apparatus of claim 1, wherein said measuring adjunct is manufactured of a radio-opaque material selected from the group consisting of brass, steel, copper, metal alloys, and polymers, doped with boron.

3. The medical measuring apparatus of claim 1, wherein said object to image retainer includes a pad including a plurality of adjacent layers serving as the height adjustment means wherein each of said layers is separated by a slit, said slit for allowing the measuring adjunct to be inserted within, such that the measuring adjunct and the plurality of layers are perpendicularly disposed.

4. The medical measuring apparatus of claim 1, wherein said object to image

retainer is a mechanically controlled device.

5. The medical measuring apparatus of claim 1, wherein said object to image retainer is a hydraulically controlled device.

6. The medical measuring apparatus of claim 1, wherein said geometric shape is for measuring an obliquely disposed intracorporeal passage, as the passage appears in an image.

7. The medical measuring apparatus of claim 1, wherein the object to image retainer includes a base, a stand connected to said base, and a plurality of arms connected to said stand.

8. A medical measuring apparatus for measuring a lumen of an intracorporeal passage, as the passage appears in an image, said medical measuring apparatus comprising:

a measuring adjunct including

at least a first geometric figure outline having a border formed by a portion of said measuring adjunct such that an aperture having a geometric shape is defined for measuring the lumen of the intracorporeal passage;

at least a second geometric figure outline having a border formed by a portion of said measuring adjunct such that a circular-shaped aperture is defined for measuring a cross-section of the image of the intracorporeal passage; and

a measurement specification corresponding to the at least first geometric figure outline and the at least second geometric figure outline.

9. The medical measuring apparatus of claim 8, further comprising at least one geometric figure outline having a border formed by a portion of said measuring adjunct such that a square-shaped aperture is defined for measuring an occlusion of the intracorporeal passage.

10. The medical measuring apparatus of claim 8, further comprising at least one geometric figure outline having a border formed by a portion of said measuring adjunct such that a slot-like aperture is defined for measuring an occlusion of the intracorporeal passage.

11. The medical measuring apparatus of claim 8, further comprising at least one geometric figure outline having a border formed by a portion of said measuring adjunct such that a step-like aperture is defined for measuring distance between walls of the intracorporeal passage as the walls appear in the image.

12. The medical measuring apparatus of claim 8, wherein said measuring adjunct is manufactured of a radio-opaque material selected from the group consisting of brass, steel, copper, metal alloys, and polymers, doped with boron.

13. The medical measuring apparatus of claim 12, further comprising an object to image height adjustment retainer for the measuring adjunct, said object to image height adjustment retainer having calibrated height adjustment means for selecting the height of the measuring adjunct to compensate for a magnification ratio relating to the intracorporeal passage and the intracorporeal passage as it appears in the image.

14. The medical measuring apparatus of claim 13, wherein said height adjustment means includes a pad including a plurality of adjacent layers serving as the height adjustment means wherein each of said layers is separated by a slit, said slit for

allowing the measuring adjunct to be inserted within, such that the measuring adjunct and the plurality of layers are perpendicularly disposed.

15. The medical measuring apparatus of claim 8, wherein said measurement specification is specified in metrics.

16. The medical measuring apparatus of claim 8, wherein said geometric shape is for measuring an obliquely disposed intracorporeal passage.

17. A method for measuring the lumen of an intracorporeal passage depicted in an image, comprising:

placing a medical measuring apparatus including a measuring adjunct and an object to image height adjustment retainer in a range of an imaging source field such that said measuring apparatus and said intracorporeal passage appear in the image; and

aligning a geometric figure outline in the measuring adjunct with the intracorporeal passage depicted in the image such that the lumen of the intracorporeal passage, as it appears in the image, can be measured to determine selection of a catheter having a size compatible with the intracorporeal passage.

18. The method of claim 17, further comprising, before said aligning step, inserting the measuring adjunct within one of a plurality of slits in said object to image height adjustment retainer to allow for a desired level of magnification of the image resulting from said imaging source.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein the inserting step includes partially inserting the measuring adjunct in said object to image retainer such that only an edge of the measuring adjunct resides between two layers included in the object to image retainer.

20. The method of claim 17, wherein said measuring adjunct is placed atop said object to image height adjustment retainer to allow for a desired level of magnification of the image resulting from said imaging source.